



THE COLLEGE
of IDAHO
Idaho's Liberal Arts College

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To whom it may concern:

The purpose of this letter is to inform others of the character and content of the School of Biblical Studies (SBS) offered by the University of the Nations. As an international university, the U of N is not accredited by any regional accreditation body. Therefore, questions naturally arise when U of N students transfer to accredited colleges in the United States.

I have been a Professor of History and Religion for 26 years at accredited institutions, and the Academic Vice President of The College of Idaho for six. I have also served as a guest lecturer for the U of N for many years. Therefore, I am in a position to facilitate understanding. SBS is a nine month block program in which students take only this course as their full-time academic load. The focus of the course is on the application of inductive method to the study of the entire Bible. While there are lectures on introductory matters, overarching themes and historical and archaeological background, the bulk of the work for this course consists of close reading, analysis, and application of the text. SBS is a course focusing primarily on detailed Bible content in translation. It is not primarily a course on higher criticism or history or theology, though these things are included at points. The course is taught from a Christian, nondenominational, international perspective.

From my perspective, I would fully support offering appropriate transfer credit to an accredited American college or university for any student who has completed SBS. Further, I would be glad to discuss this matter with anyone who has further questions.

Sincerely,

Mark D. Smith, Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic Affairs
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